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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 25, 1983 -- Cumulative freight volume on major U.S. railroads for the first two weeks of 1983 was an estimated 29.3 billion ton-miles, 1.6 percent above the comparable period of 1982, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Traffic in the week ended January 8 totaled 14.0 billion ton-miles and was 6.9 percent below the comparable week in 1982.

Freight traffic for the week ended January 15 totaled 15.3 billion ton-miles, up 11.0 percent from a year ago -- an increase attributed largely to very bad weather conditions last year in many parts of the nation, affecting production of some goods that move primarily by rail.

Carloadings in the week ended January 8 totaled 316,116 cars, 12.9 percent below the corresponding week of 1982. In the January 15 week, carloadings totaled 346,748, up 7.6 percent from the comparable week last year. Compared with last year, loadings were up in the January 15 week by 21.3 percent in the South and 6.9 percent in the West, but were down 2.4 percent in the East.

Seventeen of the 21 commodity groups were down in the week ended January 8, compared with a year earlier. Twelve commodity groups were down from last year in the January 15 week, but 20 of the 21 groups were up over the January 8 week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the holiday week ended January 1 totaled 27,364 cars, up 14.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 48,263 trailers and/or containers, 14.1 percent higher than last year.

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 8 totaled 32,733 cars, up 5.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 58,997 trailers and/or containers, 5.4 percent higher than last year.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/8/83:

	Loadings in Week ended January 8,1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,607	I	4,682	21.4	I	9,783	58.1
Other farm products	4,177	D	66	1.6	I	374	9.8
Metallic ores	10,455	D	9,945	48.8	I	788	8.2
Coal	93,891	D	20,957	18.2	I	32,787	53.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	6,560	D	1,850	22.0	I	1,437	28.1
Nonmetallic minerals	8,898	D	2,529	22.1	D	111	1.2
Grain mill products	11,876	D	1,026	8.0	I	1,816	18.1
Food and kindred products	12,130	D	1,783	13.5	I	2,276	23.1
Primary forest products	13,428	D	3,208	19.3	I	4,155	44.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,454	I	814	17.5	I	755	16.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,466	D	1,762	10.9	I	4,060	39.0
Chemicals and allied products	21,076	D	2,403	10.2	I	967	4.8
Petroleum products	4,761	D	490	9.3	I	848	21.7
Stone, clay and glass products	8,488	D	1,315	13.4	I	1,620	23.6
Coke	4,201	D	1,082	20.5	I	542	14.8
Metals and products	6,463	D	5,160	44.4	I	1,478	29.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	11,059	I	2,472	28.8	I	5,844	112.1
Waste and scrap materials	6,034	D	2,401	28.5	I	1,964	48.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,961	D	1,233	17.1	I	989	19.9
All other carloads	39,158	I	2,555	7.0	I	8,038	25.8
LCL traffic	973	D	304	23.8	I	864	792.7
Total Cars Loaded	316,116	D	46,991	12.9	I	81,274	34.6
Corresponding week of 1982	363,107						

	1983	1982	% Change
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 8	14.0	15.1	D 6.9

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Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/15/83:

	Loadings in Week ended January 15,1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,255	I		5,607	24.8	I	1,648	6.2
Other farm products	4,386	D		292	6.2	I	209	5.0
Metallic ores	11,067	D		6,466	36.9	I	612	5.9
Coal	102,364	I		14,007	15.9	I	8,473	9.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,371	I		1,033	16.3	I	811	12.4
Nonmetallic minerals	9,650	D		138	1.4	I	752	8.5
Grain mill products	12,429	D		996	7.4	I	553	4.7
Food and kindred products	12,162	D		1,582	11.5	I	32	0.3
Primary forest products	15,160	I		4,240	38.8	I	1,732	12.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,574	I		1,921	41.3	I	1,120	20.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,893	D		1,143	7.1	I	427	3.0
Chemicals and allied products	23,299	I		2,292	10.9	I	2,223	10.5
Petroleum products	4,814	D		604	11.1	I	53	1.1
Stone, clay and glass products	8,761	I		244	2.9	I	273	3.2
Coke	3,884	D		784	16.8	D	317	7.5
Metals and products	6,916	D		3,483	33.5	I	453	7.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	13,258	I		2,043	18.2	I	2,199	19.9
Waste and scrap materials	7,092	D		1,419	16.7	I	1,058	17.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,149	D		551	7.8	I	1,188	19.9
All other carloads	46,232	I		10,809	30.5	I	7,074	18.1
LCL traffic	1,032	D		221	17.6	I	59	6.1
Total Cars Loaded	346,748	I		24,517	7.6	I	30,632	9.7
Corresponding week of 1982	322,231							

	1983	1982	% Change	
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
Week ended January 8	14.0	15.1	D	6.9
Week ended January 15	15.3	13.8	I	11.0
2 weeks cumulative	29.3	28.9	I	1.6

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